

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently amended) A method for activating, *in vivo*, plant defense and resistance reactions against biotic or abiotic stresses, comprising: administering, to living plants or seeds of the living plants, an effective amount of (1) ulvans extracted from green algae of the genus *Ulva* or *Enteromorpha*, or (2) a reaction product obtained from hydrolysis or enzymatic hydrolysis of the ulvans of (1),

wherein ~~the administration~~ administering to the plants is effected under *in vivo* conditions.

7. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the administering to the plants is carried out via leaves or via roots.

8. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the effective amount ~~given to the plants~~ is from 0.1 g to 100 g per liter, and wherein the administering is when applied in liquid form via the leaves, in nutritive solution for ~~[[the]]~~ roots or in solution for seed or post-harvest treatment.

9-10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the nutritive solution is provided dropwise to the roots or hydroponics are utilized to provide the nutritive solution to the roots.

12-17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the effective amount ~~given to the plants~~ is 1 g per liter.

19. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the effective amount ~~given to the plants~~ is from 10 to 1000 g per hectare, and wherein the administering is when applied in solid the form of a solid, [[in]] pulverulent or granulated products.

20. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 19, wherein the effective amount ~~given to the plants~~ is 200 g per hectare.

21. (Currently Amended) A method for activating, *in vivo*, plant defense and resistance reactions against biotic stresses, comprising: administering, to living plants, an effective amount of (1) ulvans extracted from green algae of the genus *Ulva* or *Enteromorpha*, or (2) a reaction product obtained from hydrolysis or enzymatic hydrolysis of the ulvans of (1),
wherein the ~~administration~~ administering to the plants is effected under *in vivo* conditions.